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**ELDERLY**

**ADVOCATE'S**

**LEGISLATIVE**

**HANDBOOK**



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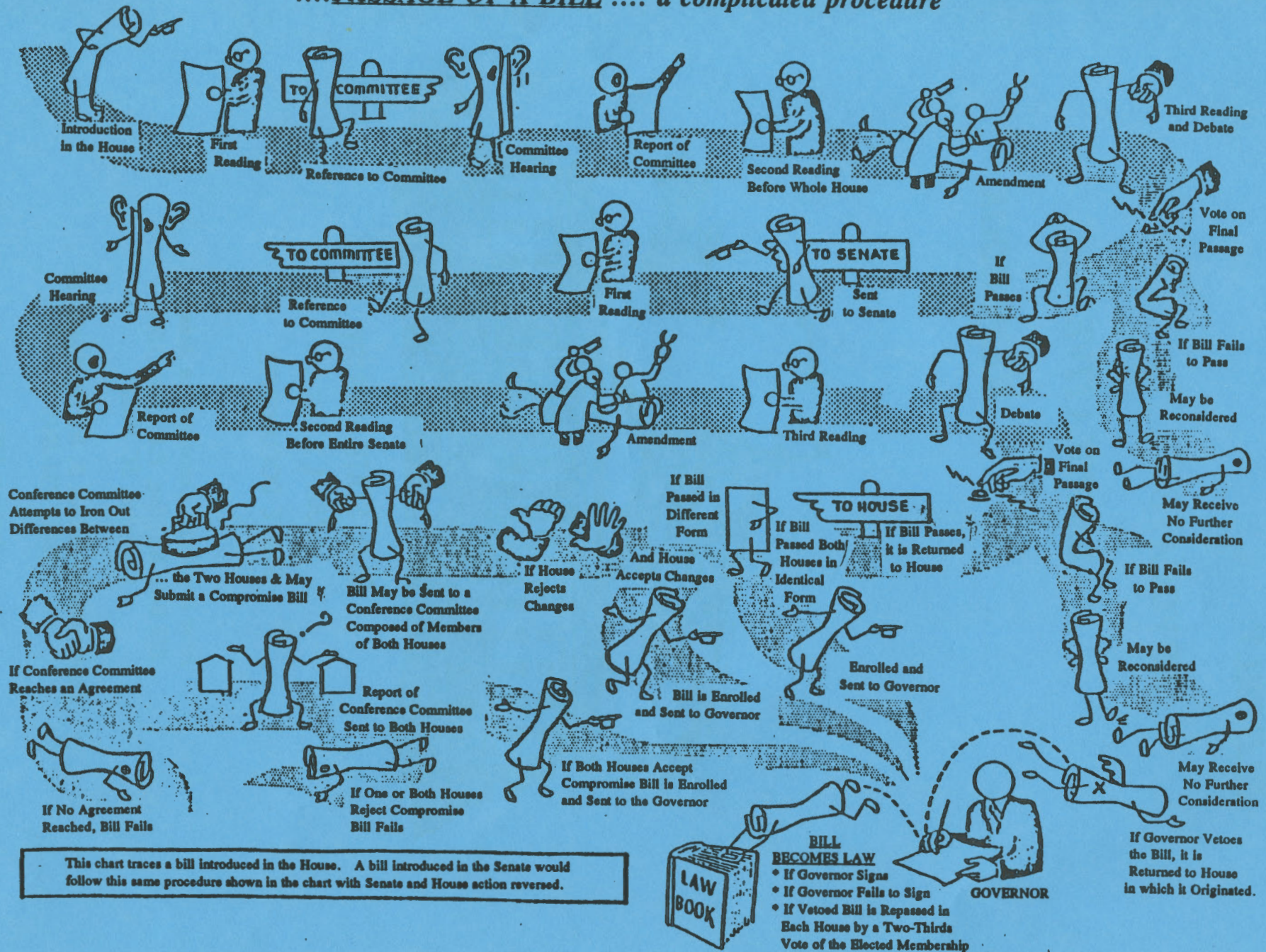
***Joint Legislative Committee on Aging  
212 Blatt Building, P.O. Box 11867  
Columbia, SC 29211***

***Representative Patrick B. Harris, Chairman  
(803) 734-2995***

***January 1992***



# ....PASSAGE OF A BILL.... a complicated procedure



This chart traces a bill introduced in the House. A bill introduced in the Senate would follow this same procedure shown in the chart with Senate and House action reversed.

# ***ELDERLY ADVOCATE’S LEGISLATIVE HANDBOOK***

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**Roger M. Young/ 8121 Greenridge Rd./ N. Charleston, SC 29418**

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### **COUNTY VOTER REGISTRATION OFFICE NUMBERS**

If you do not know who your legislator is or which district you live in, you can call your county voter registration office for information. Following is a list of the offices and phone numbers.

Abbeville	459-5083	Greenwood	229-6622 ext. 221 or 222
Aiken	642-2029; 642-2028	Hampton	943-3196
Allendale	584-4178	Horry	248-2472
Anderson	260-4035	Jasper	726-7708
Bamberg	245-3028	Kershaw	425-1519
Barnwell	259-1146	Lancaster	285-2969
Beaufort	525-7104	Laurens	984-4431; 984-3722
Berkeley	761-6900 ext.4057	Lee	484-5341
Calhoun	874-2929	Lexington	359-8361
Charleston	724-6725	McCormick	465-2089
Cherokee	487-2563	Marlboro	479-5612
Chester	385-2562	Newberry	321-2121; 321-2122
Chesterfield	623-2265	Oconee	638-4196; 638-4197
Clarendon	435-8215	Orangeburg	533-1000, ext.197
Colleton	549-2842	Pickens	898-5948
Darlington	398-4900	Richland	748-4944
Dillon	774-1403	Saluda	445-8851
Dorchester	563-5115	Spartanburg	596-2549
Edgefield	637-4072; 637-4000	Sumter	773-1581
Fairfield	635-1411 ext. 36	Union	429-1616; 426-1617
Florence	665-3094	Williamsburg	354-6044
Georgetown	546-9530	York	684-8530
Greenville	240-7250		

## STANDING COMMITTEES

### SENATE - GRESSETTE BUILDING

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Banking and Insurance . . . . .	John A. Martin . . . . .	2745 . . .	203
Corrections and Penology . . . . .	Donald H. Holland . . . . .	2824 . . .	410
Education . . . . .	Nikki Setzler . . . . .	2826 . . .	412
Ethics . . . . .	Edward E. Saleeby . . . . .	2748 . . .	205
Finance . . . . .	John Drummond. . . . .	2760 . . .	111
Fish, Game, & Forestry . . . . .	Donald H. Holland . . . . .	2797 . . .	213
General . . . . .	Thomas L. Moore . . . . .	2753 . . .	211
Interstate Cooperation . . . . .	Marshall B. Williams . . . . .	2735 . . .	101
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## JOINT LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEES

Joint Legislative Committee on Aging . . . . .	734-2995
Joint Health Care Planning & Oversight . . . . .	734-2906
Joint Mental Health & Mental Retardation . . . . .	734-3116
Joint Insurance Laws Study Committee . . . . .	734-2845

## S.C. BILL STATUS - LEGISLATIVE INFORMATION

Columbia . . . . .	734-2060
Toll Free . . . . .	1-800-922-1539

## **TIPS FOR CONTACTING YOUR LEGISLATORS**

To find out the status of a particular bill, call toll free  
Legislative Information: 1-800-922-1539  
Columbia: 734-2060

The best contact is a personal visit when your legislator is home: weekends or Mondays during the legislative session.

- Make an appointment.
- Contact at his or her office, home or when the county delegation is meeting.
- State specifically the proposal or bill you are interested in.
- Explain exactly what you want done: sponsor a bill, vote for or against, talk to another legislator, etc.
- Be prepared to briefly explain your reasons.
- Leave a written summary; follow up with letter or call.

Legislators do pay attention to letters expressing opinions on vital issues.

- Cover only one subject per letter; keep it to one page.
- Put details or data in attachments.
- Be sure names are spelled correctly.
- Put return address on the letter.
- Use personal or business letterhead.
- State your reasons for writing.
- Personal experience is the best supporting evidence. Tell how the issue affects you, your clients or your opinion of how it will affect your community or state.
- Use your own words; avoid jargon, stereotyped language, slogans, or clinical terms.
- Ask for a statement of his or her position on the issue.

Telephone calls and telegrams are always appropriate and are very useful when time is short.

Constituent opinions are important to help legislators make decisions. Always be considerate; never demanding.

As with any friend, try to learn of your legislator's interests and pass along any compliments.

Legislators' schedules are often hurried, but talking with staff and/or family can also be helpful to you and to them.

If you disagree, avoid backing him or her into a corner; leave room for change of mind. Their support may be needed on another issue in the future.



# MY LEGISLATORS INFORMATION FORM

HOUSE DISTRICT # \_\_\_\_\_

Representative's Name

Address

Phone #

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State House Address:

The Honorable \_\_\_\_\_  
S. C. House of Representatives  
Post Office Box 11867  
Columbia, SC 29211

Dear Representative \_\_\_\_\_

SENATE DISTRICT # \_\_\_\_\_

Senator's Name

Address

Phone #

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State House Address:

The Honorable \_\_\_\_\_  
S. C. Senate  
Post Office Box 142  
Columbia, SC 29202

Dear Senator \_\_\_\_\_

Our Governor may be addressed as follows:

The Honorable Carroll A. Campbell, Jr.  
State House, P. O. Box 11369  
Columbia, SC 29211

Dear Governor Campbell: